

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A timezone database structure for conversion of dates or times from one time zone to another, comprising:

at least one timezone identifier;

at least one local shift time associated with each said timezone identifier; and

an anchor shift time associated with each said local shift time, wherein said at least one local shift time and said anchor shift time are used for conversion of dates or times.

2. (Original) The database structure of claim 1, wherein the local shift times associated with a given timezone identifier of the at least one timezone identifier are in sorted order.

3. (Original) The database structure of claim 1, wherein the local shift times associated with a given timezone identifier of the at least one timezone identifier are in unsorted order.

4. (Original) The database structure of claim 1, wherein a timezone associated with a timezone identifier of the at least one timezone identifier is non-observing.

5. (Original) The database structure of claim 1, wherein a timezone associated with a first timezone identifier of the at least one timezone identifier is observing.

6. (Original) The database structure of claim 5, wherein a timezone associated with a

second timezone identifier of the at least one timezone identifier is non-observing.

7. (Original) The database structure of claim 1, wherein a first local shift time associated with a first timezone identifier of the at least one timezone identifier is relative to a reference date-time.

8. (Original) The database structure of claim 7, wherein the first local shift time is after the reference date-time.

9. (Original) The database structure of claim 7, wherein the first local shift time is before the reference date-time.

10. (Original) The database structure of claim 9, wherein a second local shift time associated with the first timezone identifier is relative to the reference date-time, and wherein the second local shift time is after the reference date-time.

11. (Original) The database structure of claim 1, wherein the at least one local shift time and the anchor shift time are expressed in a format selected from the group consisting of an integer format, a floating point format, an octal format, a hexadecimal format, a binary format, a character format, and combinations thereof.

12. (New) A set of instructions, which when executed, provide a timezone database structure for conversion of dates or times from one time zone to another, comprising:

at least one timezone identifier;
at least one local shift time associated with each said timezone identifier; and
an anchor shift time associated with each said local shift time, wherein said at least one local shift time and said anchor shift time are used for conversion of dates or times.

13. (New) A set of instructions as in claim 12, wherein the at least one local shift time and the anchor shift time are expressed in a format selected from the group consisting of an integer format, a floating point format, an octal format, a hexadecimal format, a binary format, a character format, and combinations thereof.